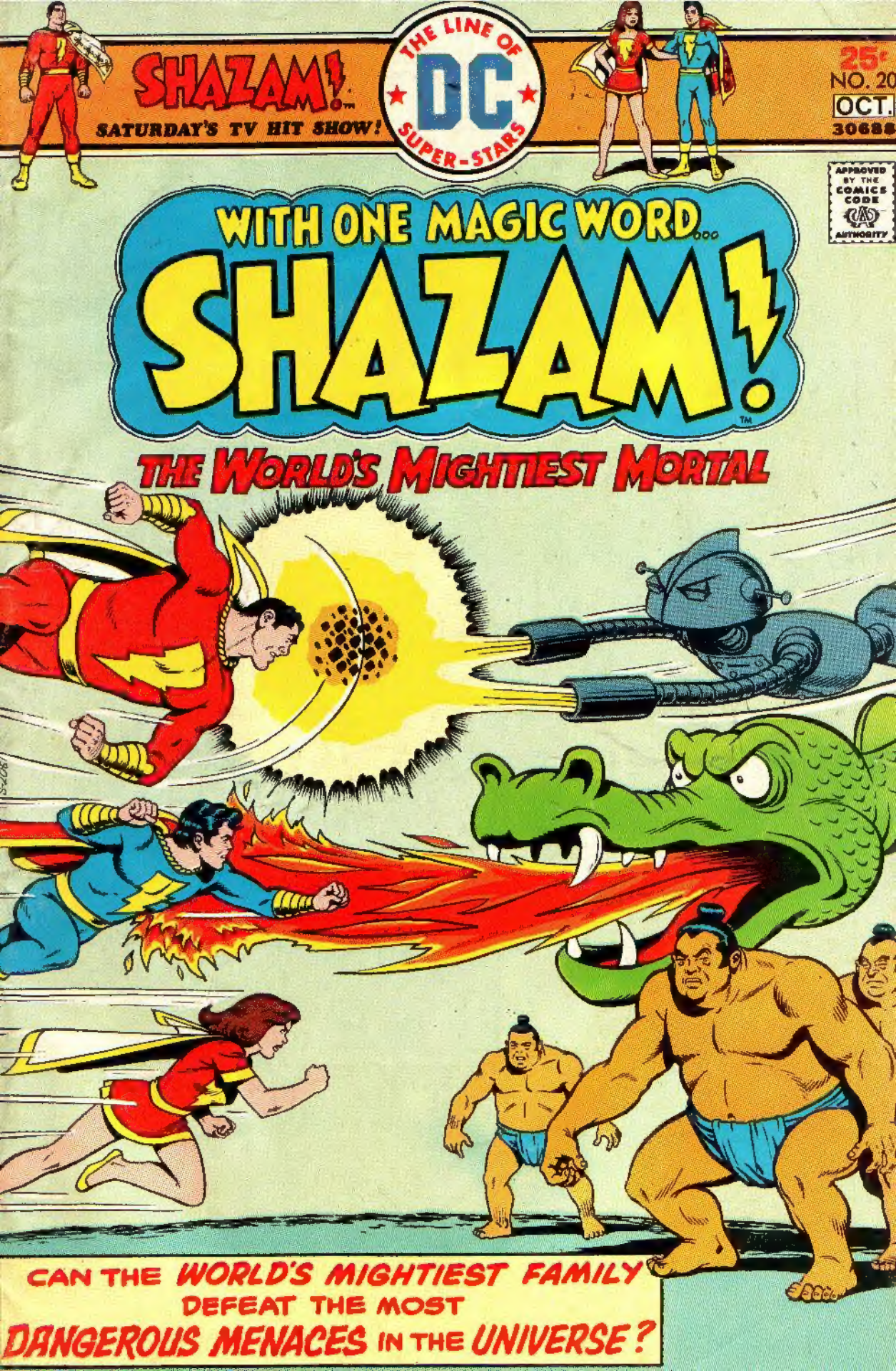
SHAZAM!
SATURDAY'S TV HIT SHOW!
THE LINE OF DC SUPER-STARS
25¢
NO. 20
OCT.
30688
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WITH ONE MAGIC WORD...
SHAZAM!
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL
CAN THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST FAMILY DEFEAT THE MOST DANGEROUS MENACES IN THE UNIVERSE?

SHAZAM!

THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL FIGHTS THE...

MINERVA MENACE!

AUNT MINERVA, LEADING LADY OF THE UNDERWORLD, HATCHES A PLOT TO DOMINATE THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE!

IF THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD RESTS WITH THE CHILDREN, I'LL *CONTROL* THE *CHILDREN!*

GREAT IDEA, BUT HOW?

SHUT UP AND LISTEN!

I'LL USE MY MIND CONTROL MACHINE TO CONFUSE THEIR MINDS. WE'LL CAPTURE THE TV STATION AND BROADCAST "CONTROLLED THOUGHTS"! I'LL CONVINCE THEM THAT WHAT THEY LIKE THEY DON'T *REALLY* LIKE!

BRILLIANT THINKING, AUNT MINERVA!

AUNT MINERVA'S HENCHMEN CAPTURE BILLY BATSON.

MINERVA QUICKLY BEGINS OPERATION "BIG LIE."

YOU DON'T LIKE HOSTESS TWINKIES!

YOU DON'T LIKE HOSTESS TWINKIES!

I DON'T LIKE HOSTESS TWINKIES!

I DON'T LIKE HOSTESS TWINKIES!

WE'VE GOT TO DECONTROL THE CHILDREN'S MINDS, AND LET THEM SAY WHAT THEY *REALLY* MEAN!

SHAZAM!

AT THE SOUND OF THE MAGIC WORD MYSTIC LIGHTNING STRIKES AGAIN!

THINK FOR YOURSELVES AGAIN, KIDS!

WHAT AM I SAYING? I LOVE HOSTESS TWINKIES!

GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE WITH CREAMY FILLING INSIDE!! WHAT COULD BE MORE DELICIOUS THAN TWINKIES?

Hostess Twinkies

Twinkies Twinkies Twinkies Twinkies

THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL HAS BEATEN ME AGAIN!

YOU SHOULDA BRAINWASHED THE KIDS ABOUT SOMETHING OTHER THAN TWINKIES.

STUDIO B

YEAH, AUNT MINERVA, KIDS LIKE TWINKIES TOO MUCH TO BE FOOLED!

Hostess Twinkies

Twinkies Twinkies Twinkies Twinkies

YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF *HOSTESS® TWINKIES®*

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WHEN BILLY BATSON AND HIS SISTER MARY SAY THE NAME OF THE ANCIENT WIZARD SHAZAM... AND WHEN FREDDY FREEMAN SPEAKS THE NAME OF HIS HERO, CAPTAIN MARVEL... THEY ARE TRANSFORMED BY MAGIC LIGHTNING INTO CAPTAIN MARVEL, MARY MARVEL AND CAPTAIN MARVEL JR....
The Marvel Family
CAPTAIN MARVEL! I'VE FOUND MAXWELL ZODIAC!
WAITAMINNIT! I FOUND HIM, TOO!
HOLY MOLEY!-- HOW COULD WE ALL HAVE FOUND THE SAME MAN--?!
ELLIOT S! MAGGIN, WRITER
Schaffenberger, ARTIST
JULIUS SCHWARTZ, EDITOR
"The STRANGE and TERRIBLE DISAPPEARANCE of MAXWELL ZODIAC!"

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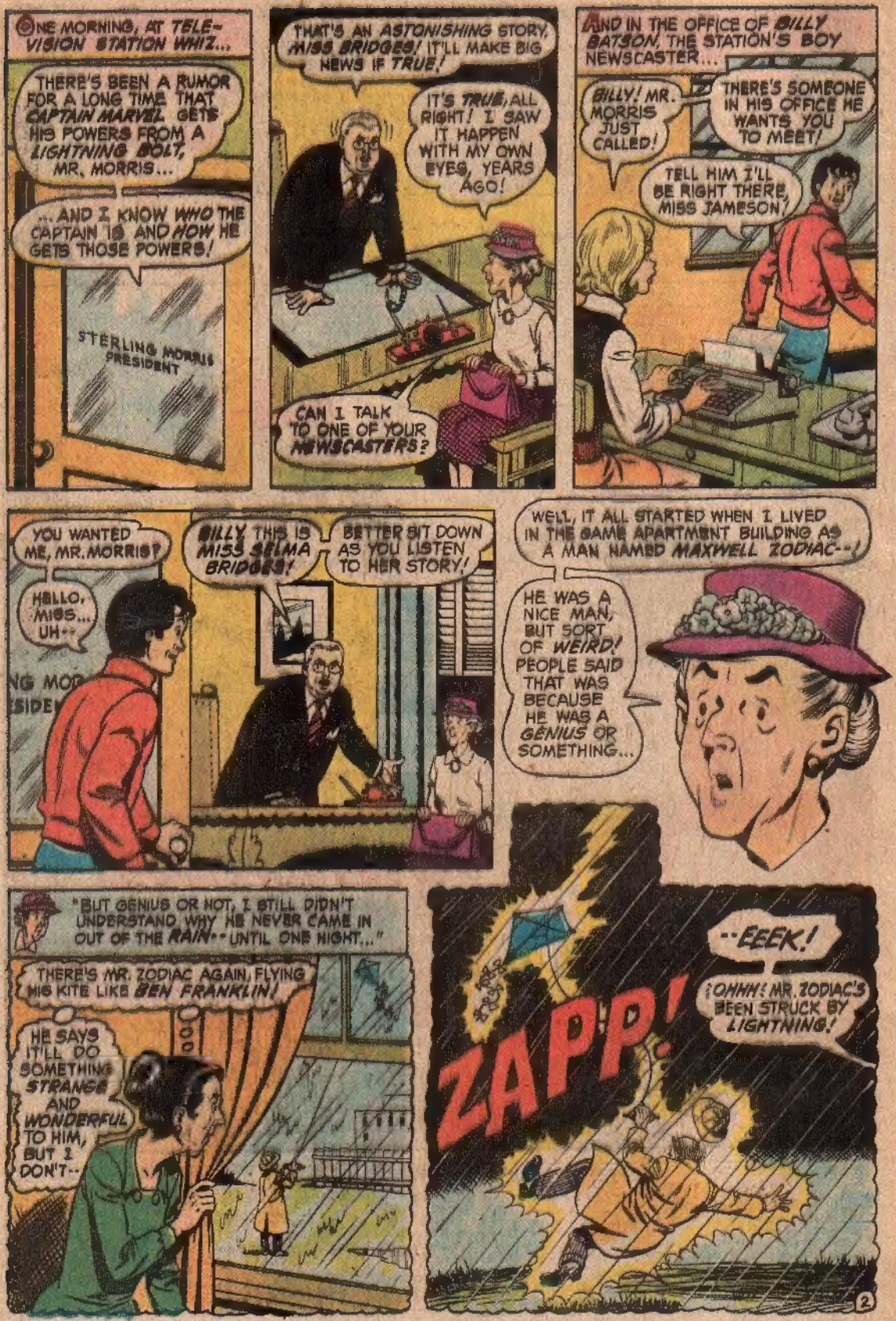
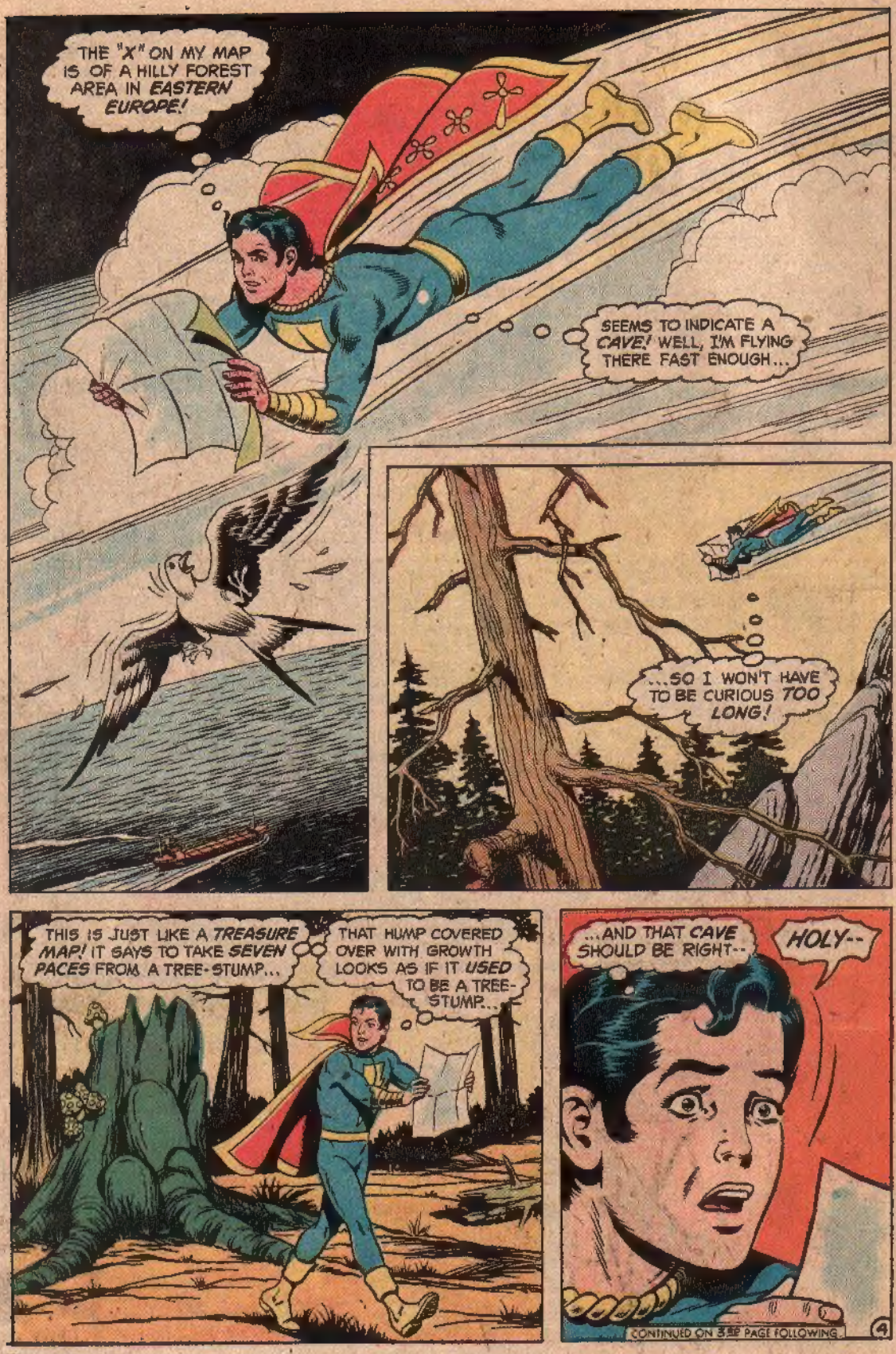

ONE MORNING, AT TELEVISION STATION WHIZ...
THERE'S BEEN A RUMOR FOR A LONG TIME THAT CAPTAIN MARVEL GETS HIS POWERS FROM A LIGHTNING BOLT, MR. MORRIS...
...AND I KNOW WHO THE CAPTAIN IS AND HOW HE GETS THOSE POWERS!
STERLING MORRIS PRESIDENT
THAT'S AN ASTONISHING STORY, MISS BRIDGES! IT'LL MAKE BIG NEWS IF TRUE!
IT'S TRUE, ALL RIGHT! I SAW IT HAPPEN WITH MY OWN EYES, YEARS AGO!
CAN I TALK TO ONE OF YOUR NEWSCASTERS?
AND IN THE OFFICE OF BILLY BATSON, THE STATION'S BOY NEWSCASTER...
BILLY! MR. MORRIS JUST CALLED!
THERE'S SOMEONE IN HIS OFFICE HE WANTS YOU TO MEET!
TELL HIM I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, MISS JAMESON!
YOU WANTED ME, MR. MORRIS?
BILLY THIS IS MISS SELMA BRIDGES!
BETTER SIT DOWN AS YOU LISTEN TO HER STORY!
HELLO, MISS... UH--
WELL, IT ALL STARTED WHEN I LIVED IN THE SAME APARTMENT BUILDING AS A MAN NAMED MAXWELL ZODIAC--!
HE WAS A NICE MAN, BUT SORT OF WEIRD! PEOPLE SAID THAT WAS BECAUSE HE WAS A GENIUS OR SOMETHING...
"BUT GENIUS OR NOT, I STILL DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY HE NEVER CAME IN OUT OF THE RAIN--UNTIL ONE NIGHT..."
THERE'S MR. ZODIAC AGAIN, FLYING HIS KITE LIKE BEN FRANKLIN!
HE SAYS IT'LL DO SOMETHING STRANGE AND WONDERFUL TO HIM, BUT I DON'T--
ZAPP!
--EEEK!
¡OHHH! MR. ZODIAC'S BEEN STRUCK BY LIGHTNING!
2

"I RUSHED DOWNSTAIRS AND OUT INTO THE RAIN, BRINGING ALONG EVERYONE I RAN INTO ON THE WAY, BUT..."
THERE GOES THE KITE...B-BUT MR. ZODIAC'S GONE!
THE LIGHTNING COULDN'T HAVE VAPORIZED HIM--IT DIDN'T EVEN SINGE THE KITE!
AND THAT EVENING, AS BILLY AND FREDDY FREEMAN HAVE DINNER AT THE HOME OF BILLY'S SISTER, MARY BATSON...
MISS BRIDGES SAID THIS ALL HAPPENED RIGHT AROUND THE TIME CAPTAIN MARVEL MADE HIS VERY FIRST APPEARANCE!
MR. ZODIAC ISN'T CAPTAIN MARVEL, OF COURSE... BUT ISN'T THERE ANY CLUE WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
YES! MISS BRIDGES FOUND THESE THOSE MAPS IN HIS ROOM-- EACH MARKED WITH AN "X" AT A DIFFERENT SPOT ON EARTH!
SHE'S CONVINCED THEY'RE THREE PLACES CAPTAIN MARVEL HIDES OUT... BUT I THINK THEY MIGHT BE WHERE MR. ZODIAC WENT!
HOLY MOLEY! WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
-- FOR YOU TO FINISH YOUR--
CAPTAIN MARVEL!
--DINNER...
AS HE UTTERS HIS HERO'S NAME, CRIPPLED FREDDY FREEMAN IS BATHED IN A BOLT OF MAGIC LIGHTNING WHICH TRANSFORMS HIM INSTANTLY INTO...
POWW!
CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!
I'M NOT WAITING AROUND FOR YOU TO SAY--
SHAZAM!
THIS TIME, THE MAGIC WORD BRINGS A PAIR OF MYSTIC LIGHTNING BOLTS, CHANGING BILLY AND MARY BATSON TO...
BOOOM! KRASH!
...CAPTAIN MARVEL AND MARY MARVEL...
...BUT THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY IS WAY AHEAD OF THEM!


THE "X" ON MY MAP IS OF A HILLY FOREST AREA IN EASTERN EUROPE!
SEEMS TO INDICATE A CAVE! WELL, I'M FLYING THERE FAST ENOUGH...
...SO I WON'T HAVE TO BE CURIOUS TOO LONG!
THIS IS JUST LIKE A TREASURE MAP! IT SAYS TO TAKE SEVEN PACES FROM A TREE-STUMP...
THAT HUMP COVERED OVER WITH GROWTH LOOKS AS IF IT USED TO BE A TREE-STUMP...
...AND THAT CAVE SHOULD BE RIGHT--
HOLY--
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING
4

WHAT TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY AND YOU'RE NOT A WEREWOLF.

Every now and then, do you get this uncontrollable urge to bite into something that's really got some meat in it?

Are you tired of sugar-sweet snacks that dissolve in your mouth, and crunchy snacks that you can hardly tell you ate, and all the other boring stuff you have to put up with, every day?

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Slim Jim is a chewy, all-meat snack that comes in five very un-boring flavors. Mild, spicy, salami, bacon, and pizza. And you can find it at the grocery store. Or at a lot of the places where you've been getting those sissy snacks.

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A LITTLE LESS THAN A MEAL. A LITTLE MORE THAN A SNACK.

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WOW!
Look WHAT YOU CAN MAKE WITH AN ALABE PLAY LAB KIT!
REAL STRINGS GROOVY!
IT SOUNDS GREAT. PLAY SOMETHING!
UNREAL!
I THINK I'LL MAKE A MICROSCOPE!
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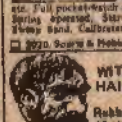

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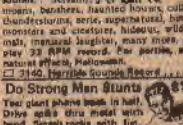

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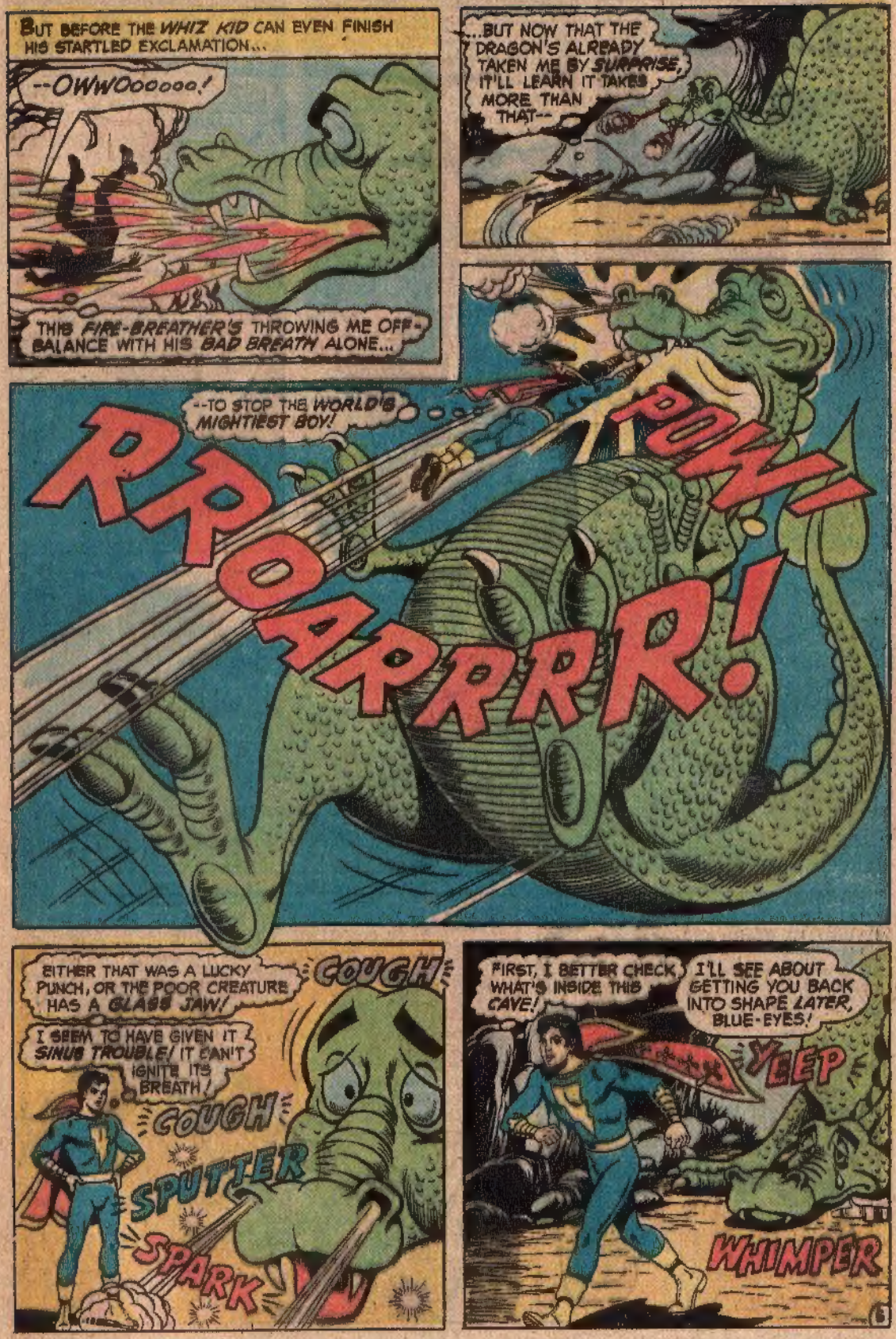
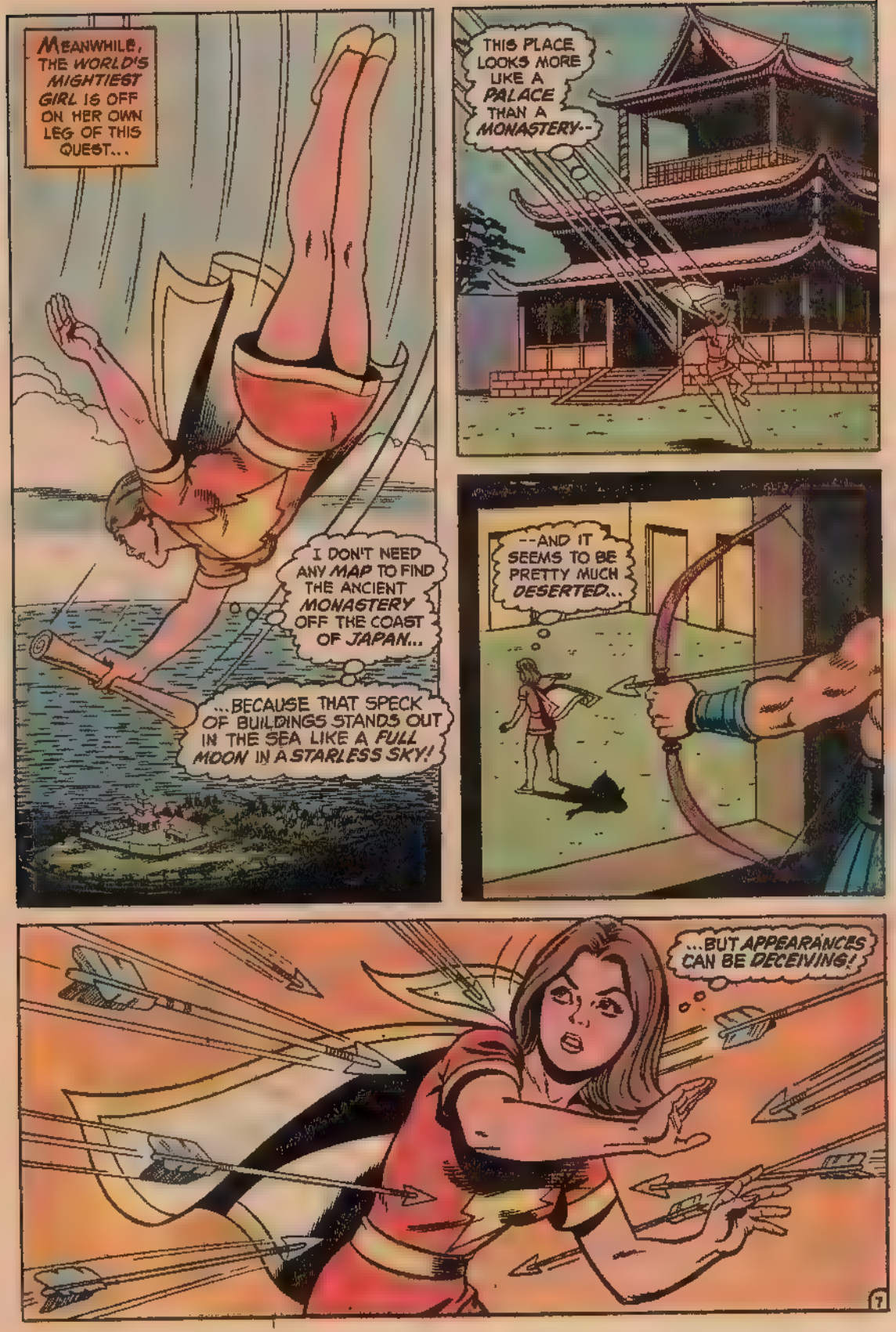
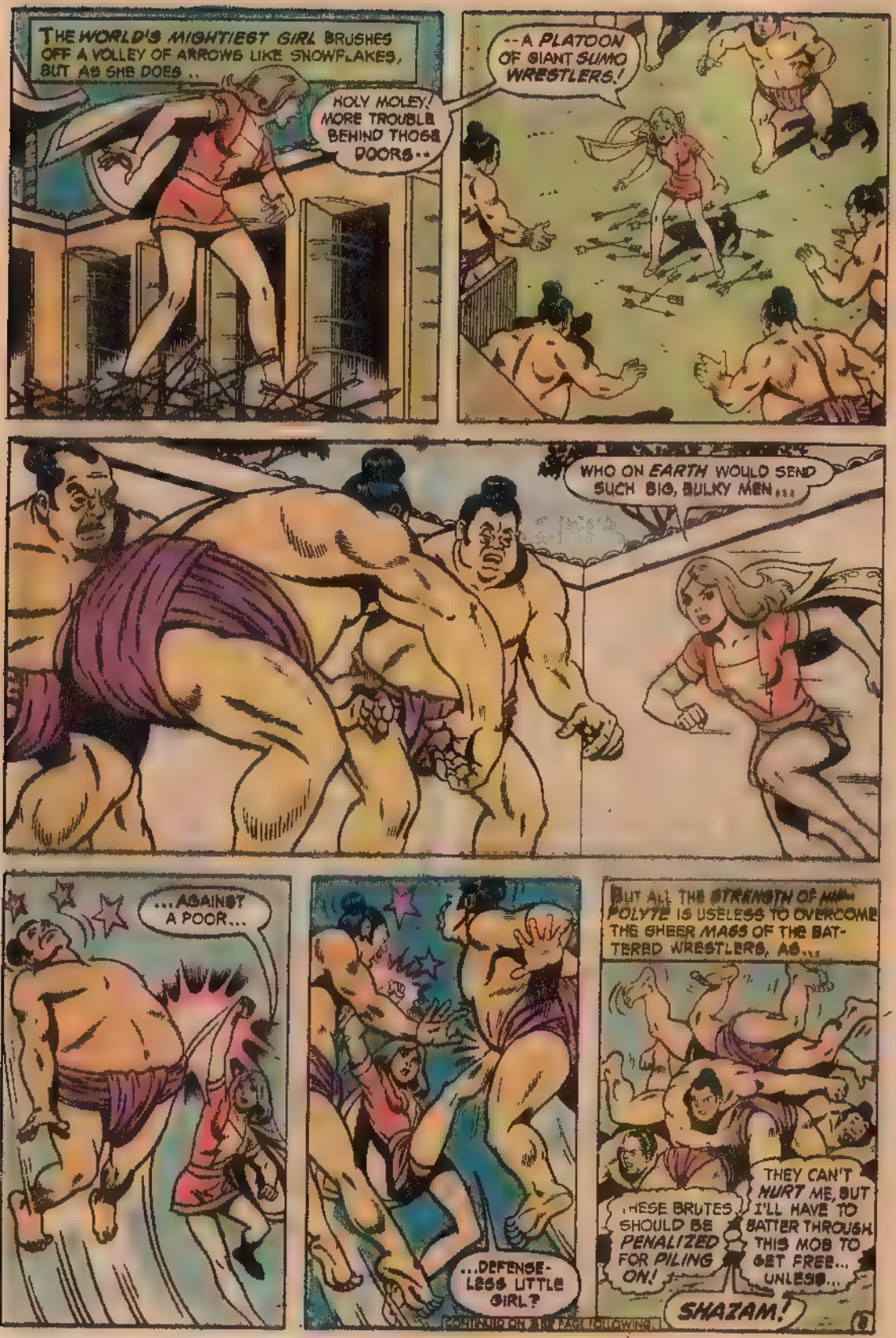
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE


BUT BEFORE THE WHIZ KID CAN EVEN FINISH HIS STARTLED EXCLAMATION...
--OWWOoooooo!
THIS FIRE-BREATHER'S THROWING ME OFF-BALANCE WITH HIS BAD BREATH ALONE...
...BUT NOW THAT THE DRAGON'S ALREADY TAKEN ME BY SURPRISE, IT'LL LEARN IT TAKES MORE THAN THAT--
--TO STOP THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY!
RROARRRR!
POW!
EITHER THAT WAS A LUCKY PUNCH, OR THE POOR CREATURE HAS A GLASS JAW!
COUGH!
I SEEM TO HAVE GIVEN IT SINUS TROUBLE! IT CAN'T IGNITE ITS BREATH!
COUGH
SPUTTER
SPARK
FIRST, I BETTER CHECK WHAT'S INSIDE THIS CAVE!
I'LL SEE ABOUT GETTING YOU BACK INTO SHAPE LATER, BLUE-EYES!
YEEP
WHIMPER
6

BUT AS SOON AS CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. STEPS INTO THE DARK CAVERN...
A LIGHT!
IF THERE'S ANOTHER MONSTER IN THERE, I'LL--
WHY, HEL-LO THERE, YOUNG MAN! I HOPE YOU DIDN'T INJURE ARSON BADLY!
I'M MAXWELL ZODIAC--AND YOU ARE...?
UHH... I'M CAPT--ER... CALL ME JUNIOR--
--AND WHO'S ARSON?
IT'S TAKEN LONGER THAN I THOUGHT FOR ANYONE TO GET PAST ARSON!
HE'S GOT AN AWFULLY SENSITIVE HEATING ELEMENT!
ARSON ...THE-- THE DRAGON?
JUNIOR, YOU WOULDN'T WANT ME TO GO BACK WITH YOU TO MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND LEAVE BEHIND A MELANCHOLY DRAGON--?
NO...I GUESS NOT!
MELANCHOLY DRAGONS ARE THE WORST KIND, YOU KNOW!
OF COURSE... MR. ZODIAC!
AND AS THE NOW-HAPPY DRAGON UNSTUFFS ITS NOSE WITH A HEALTHY BLAST OF HEAT...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S UP, MR. ZODIAC, BUT I'LL GET YOU HOME FIRST AND THEN FIND OUT!
MY, MY, JUNIOR! ARE ALL YOUNG BOYS ABLE TO FLY THESE DAYS?
6


MEANWHILE, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST GIRL IS OFF ON HER OWN LEG OF THIS QUEST...
I DON'T NEED ANY MAP TO FIND THE ANCIENT MONASTERY OFF THE COAST OF JAPAN...
...BECAUSE THAT SPECK OF BUILDINGS STANDS OUT IN THE SEA LIKE A FULL MOON IN A STARLESS SKY!
THIS PLACE LOOKS MORE LIKE A PALACE THAN A MONASTERY--
--AND IT SEEMS TO BE PRETTY MUCH DESERTED...
...BUT APPEARANCES CAN BE DECEIVING!


THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST GIRL BRUSHES OFF A VOLLEY OF ARROWS LIKE SNOWFLAKES, BUT AS SHE DOES ..
HOLY MOLEY! MORE TROUBLE BEHIND THOSE DOORS..
--A PLATOON OF GIANT SUMO WRESTLERS!
WHO ON EARTH WOULD SEND SUCH BIG, BULKY MEN...
...AGAINST A POOR...
...DEFENSE-LESS LITTLE GIRL?
BUT ALL THE STRENGTH OF Hippolyte IS USELESS TO OVERCOME THE SHEER MASS OF THE BATTERED WRESTLERS, AS...
THESE BRUTES SHOULD BE PENALIZED FOR PILING ON!
THEY CAN'T HURT ME, BUT I'LL HAVE TO BATTER THROUGH THIS MOB TO GET FREE... UNLESS...
SHAZAM!
CONTINUED ON PAGE FOLLOWING

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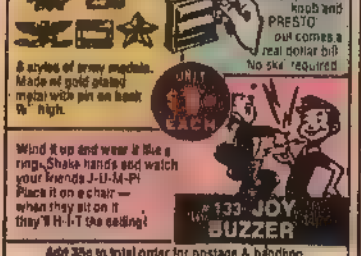

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KER-BOOM!
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...SOMETHING ELSE HITS THEM--
--THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST GIRL!
END OF LESSON IN HOSPITALITY!
BUT WHAT'S THAT HIDDEN PANEL IN THE GROUND OPENING TO--?
MY CONGRATULATIONS, YOUNG LADY...
..THOUGH I MUST SAY IT'S TAKEN LONG ENOUGH FOR SOMEONE TO FIND ME!
MY NAME IS MAXWELL ZODIAC.. AND YOU ARE MISS...?
...MARVEL--MARY MARVEL! AND WHAT IN THE NAME OF--
STOP GAPING, GIRL-- AND LET'S GO... WHEREVER IT IS YOU'RE TO TAKE ME!
AND SHE DOES...
9

...AS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL HIMSELF PROCEEDS ON HIS OWN OFFSHOOT OF THIS THREE-PRONGED MISSION...
HOLY MOLEY!-- MY QUARRY IS DEAD AHEAD!
THOUGH HOW HE GOT UP HERE BEFORE THE FIRST SPACE-SATELLITES WERE SENT UP IS BEYOND ME!
AS SOON AS I WADE THROUGH THIS SPACE-JUNK...
THAT'S THE PLACE... BUT IS IT AN ALIEN CRAFT, OR SOMETHING ZODIAC BUILT?
AND WHAT ARE THOSE LITTLE TUBES EXTENDING OUT OF THE HULL OF THE SAUCER?...
THEY LOOK LIKE...
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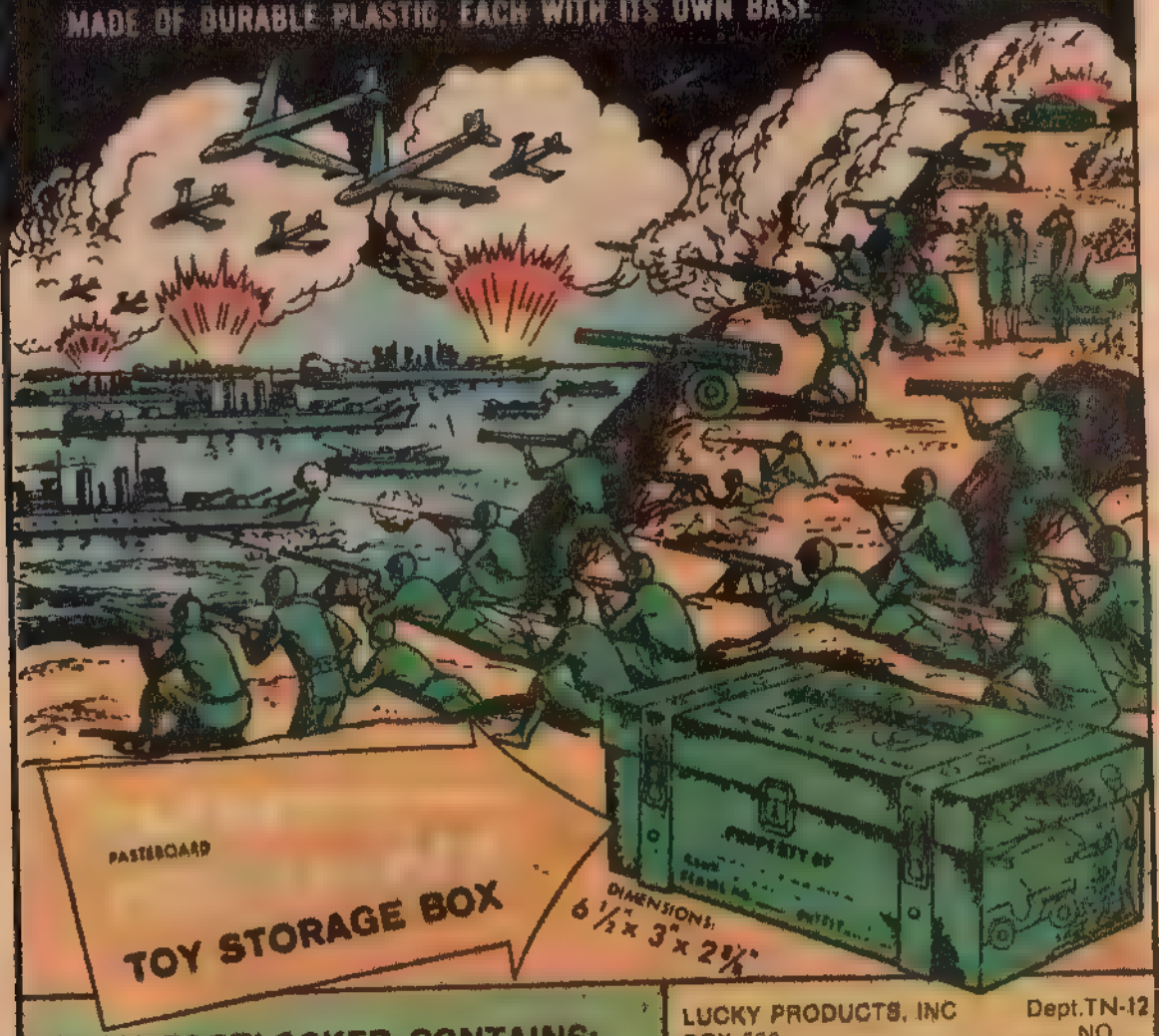

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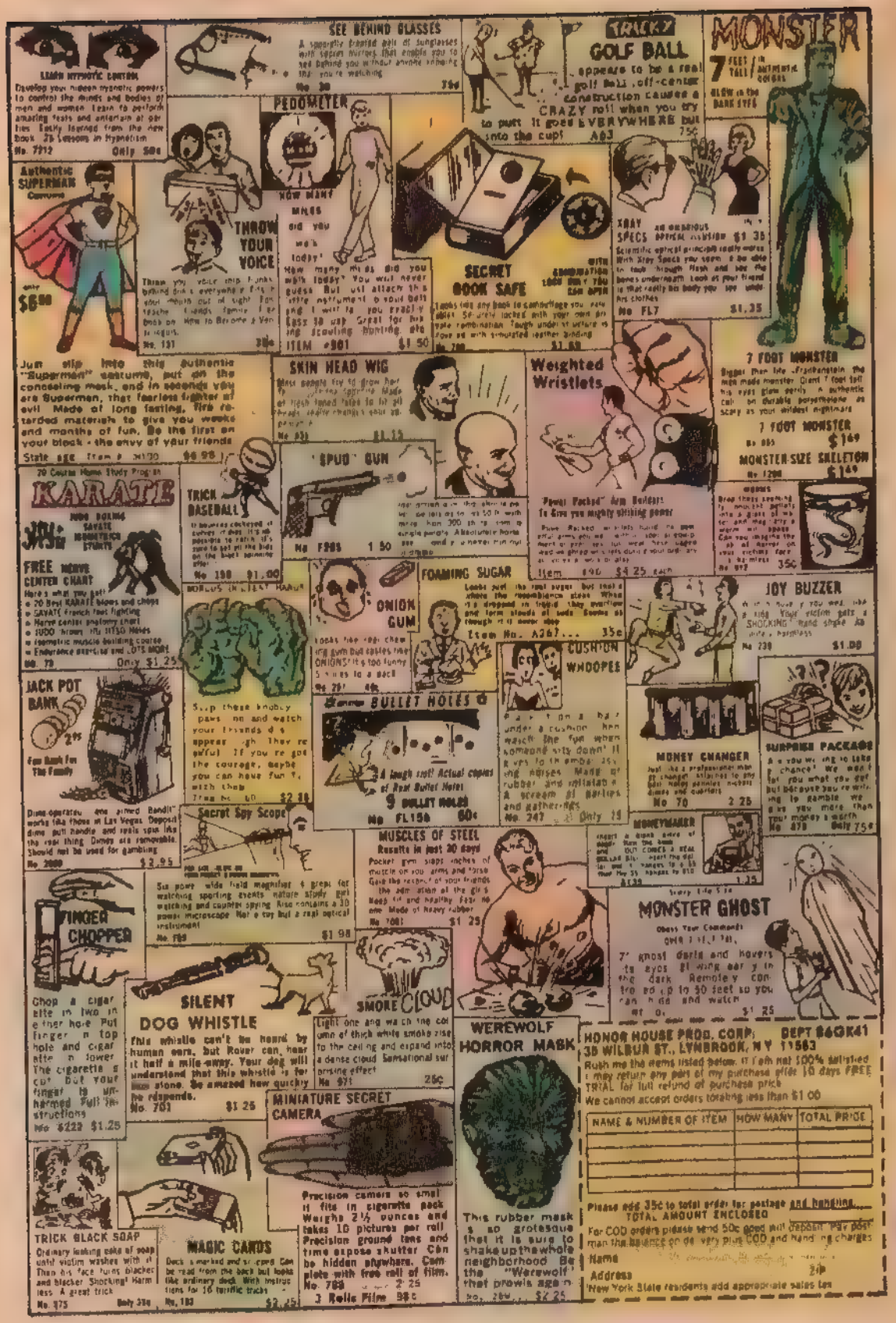
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THOSE WEAPONS HAVE A KICK! THE BEST THING TO DO IS DODGE THEM AS MUCH AS I CAN...
...UNTIL I CAN GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO CRUSH--
EEEE-YOOWWW!
AND AS CAPTAIN MARVEL TRIES TO RECOVER FROM THE SHOCK OF TOUCHING THE BOOBY-TRAPPED RAY-GUN SNOUT...
WHO COULD HAVE DESIGNED SOMETHING THAT WOULD GIVE EVEN ME SUCH A JOLT?
THE BLASTERS ARE COMING FURTHER OUT OF THE SAUCER! THEY'RE...
...ROBOT-GUARDS FOR THE SAUCER!
AND THEY LOOK AS IF THEY WANT A FIGHT!
THAT, GOOD CAPTAIN, WAS AN UNDERSTATEMENT--!

AND WHAT ENSUES IS A FIGHT TO MAKE THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE LOOK LIKE A TEA PARTY...
..FOUGHT IN OUTER SPACE, WHERE THERE IS NO ONE TO WITNESS IT--
--OR ALMOST NO ONE...
IT'S ABOUT TIME! THIS 5 QUITE REMARKABLE!
AT LAST I CAN PUT ON MY FULL-DRESS SPACE-SUIT!
THIS IS TERRIBLE! ONE ROBOT IS WEAKENING ME WITH RAY BLASTS SO THE OTHER CAN WRESTLE ME TO A STANDSTILL!
IF I CAN ONLY GET THE WRESTLER BETWEEN ME..
..AND THE RAY-BLASTER--LIKE THIS!
BUT AT LEAST THE RAY .SN'T WEAKENING ME ANY MORE--SO I HAVE THE STRENGTH TO ADJUST THESE ROBOT CONTROLS!
I THOUGHT THE OTHER ROBOT WOULD BLAST THIS ONE--BUT HE'S TURNED OFF HIS RAY!
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING
2

"Look who's smiling now!"

Sometimes a man sets his ambitions high enough to make skeptics smile. But how often he gets the last laugh! One outstanding LaSalle graduate writes: "At the time I started studying with LaSalle, I was working as a factory clerk. Before completing the course I was transferred to cost accounting and my salary was increased by $1800. Now, having completed the course, I'm in charge of the department and on my way. LaSalle's course helped me pull myself out of a boring and ill-paid job into a position of opportunity."

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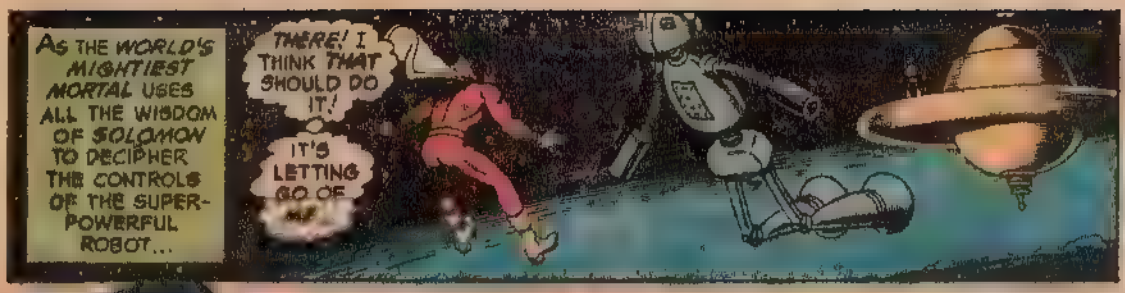
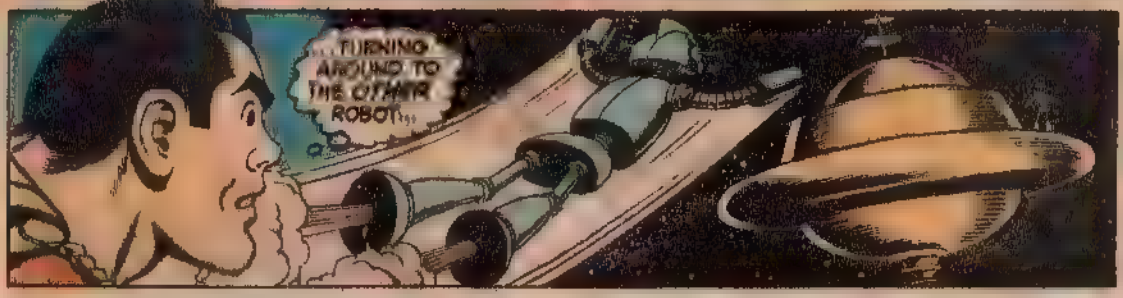
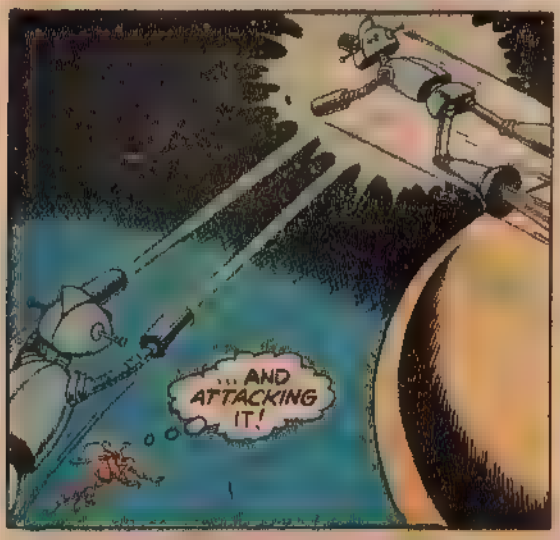
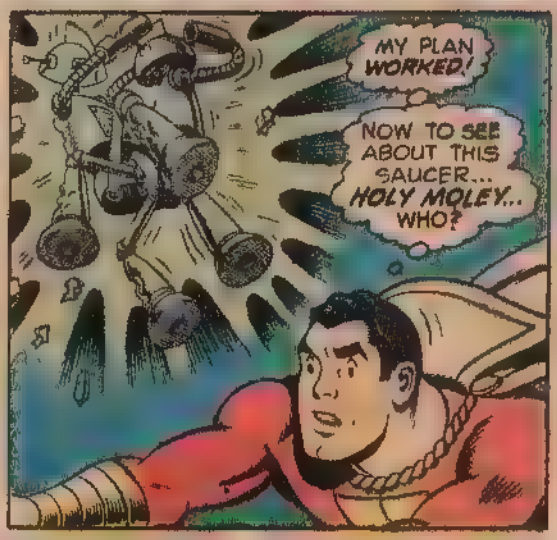
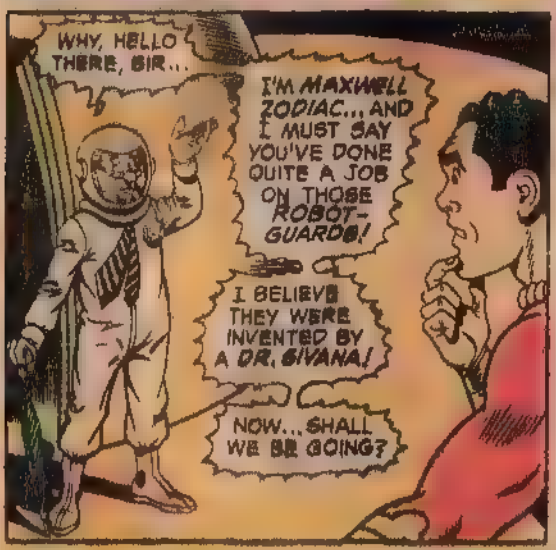
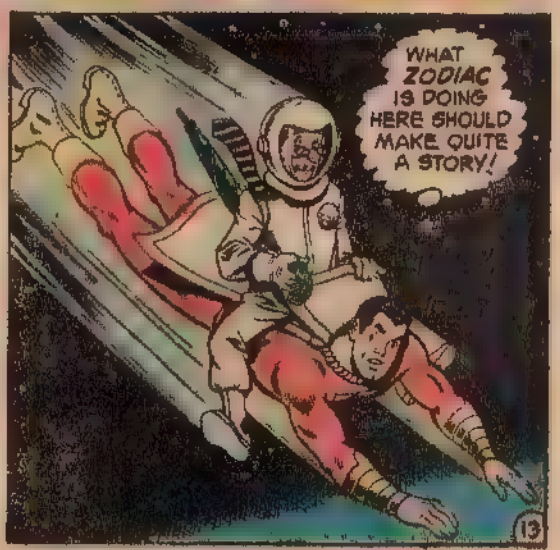

AS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL USES ALL THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON TO DECIPHER THE CONTROLS OF THE SUPER-POWERFUL ROBOT...
THERE! I THINK THAT SHOULD DO IT!
IT'S LETTING GO OF ME!


...TURNING AROUND TO THE OTHER ROBOT...


...AND ATTACKING IT!


MY PLAN WORKED!
NOW TO SEE ABOUT THIS SAUCER... HOLY MOLEY.. WHO?


WHY, HELLO THERE, SIR...
I'M MAXWELL ZODIAC... AND I MUST SAY YOU'VE DONE QUITE A JOB ON THOSE ROBOT-GUARDS!
I BELIEVE THEY WERE INVENTED BY A DR. SIVANA!
NOW... SHALL WE BE GOING?


WHAT ZODIAC IS DOING HERE SHOULD MAKE QUITE A STORY!
13

AND SO, FROM THREE DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD, THREE MARVELS CARRY THREE MAXWELL ZODIACS
...UNTIL ALL SIX PEOPLE ZOOM DOWN TOWARD THE WHIZ BUILDING, TO AN OVERPOWERING...
HOLY MOLEY!?!
GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, FELLOW ZODIACS!
WHIZ
IT'S BEEN LONGER THAN I FIGURED--
OH, THIS WILL BE A MOST PLEASANT EXPERIENCE!
BY NOW WE'RE ALMOST READY TO -- YES, CAPTAIN?
WE'VE GOT A MYSTERY TO SOLVE... AND YOU'RE INVOLVED!
MISS SELMA BRIDGES WANTS TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU!
BRIDGES?! THAT SNOOPY BLABBER-MOUTH WILL RUIN EVERYTHING!
AND MOMENTARILY, BEFORE STATION WHIZ CAMERAS...
MR. ZODIAC?
MR. ZODIAC?!?
MR. ZODIAC?
GOODNESS! THERE ARE THREE OF YOU! WHAT DID THAT HORRIBLE LIGHTNING BOLT DO TO YOU--?
CALM DOWN AND WE'LL EXPLAIN--
14

AS YOU SEE, THE LIGHTNING BOLT SPLIT ME INTO THREE MAXWELL ZODIACS!
I'VE ALWAYS THEORIZED THAT IF HUMANS WANTED TO ADVANCE FASTER THAN NORMAL...
...THE WAY TO DO IT WAS TO SPLIT INTO MORE THAN ONE BODY SO EACH COULD PROGRESS INDEPENDENTLY...
...AND THEN DO SOMETHING LIKE--THIS!
THEY--THEY'RE GLOWING GOLD!
AND...AND HE'S COMING TOGETHER...
...INTO ONE MAXWELL ZODIAC!
HE'S A MONSTER!--A MONSTER!!
NOT A MONSTER, MISS BRIDGES...A SCIENTIST!
YES...A MONSTER! YOU ALL SAW IT... LIVE ON TELEVISION!
HE'LL HAVE TOO MUCH POWER! HE'S THREE MEN IN ONE NOW! HE'S SUPERHUMAN!
I'M GOING TO TELL THE WORLD! YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT!
THE WORLD ALREADY KNOWS--THROUGH TELEVISION!
LEAVE HER, CAPTAIN... THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO TO CALM HER NOW!
15

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE VIEWING AUDIENCE ...CAMERAS DON'T LIE!
CAPTAIN MARVEL! WE CAN SETTLE THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL...
MAXWELL ZODIAC IS PERFECTLY--
WHIZ
...WITH A MACHINE INVENTED BY THE RENOWNED DR. THOMAS KILOWATT, HERE!
MAY I DEMONSTRATE, MR. ZODIAC?
BE MY GUEST, DR. KILOWATT!
YOU SEE, FOLKS, WHEN I DIRECT MY MACHINE AT CAPTAIN MARVEL, IT REGISTERS THE FACT THAT HE'S SUPER!
I DON'T CARE WHAT THE MACHINE SAYS! IT'S JUST NOT NATURAL!
BUT WHEN I POINT IT AT MR. ZODIAC, IT REGISTERS THAT HE'S AS NORMAL AS YOU OR I!
THANK YOU, DR. KILOWATT, FOR SHOWING EVERYBODY WHAT I AM!
NORMAL
AND NOW EVERYONE SHOULD BE PERFECTLY SATISFIED THAT--
HOLY MOLEY! LOOK AT ALL THOSE PHONE CALLS COMING TO THE STATION!
HELLO, STATION WHIZ...
...WE'RE DOING ALL WE CAN...
...PLEASE HOLD..
CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE
16

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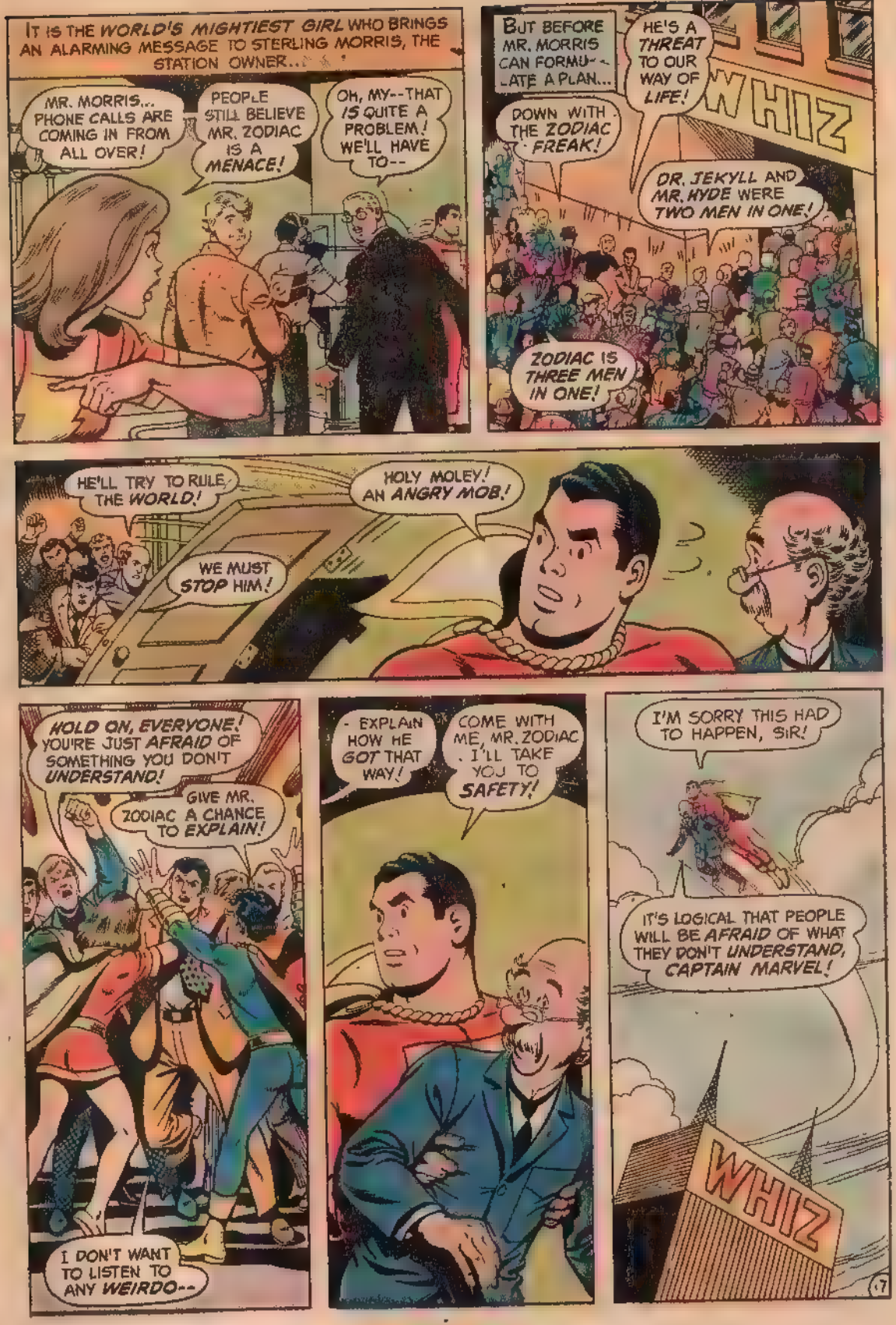
IT IS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST GIRL WHO BRINGS AN ALARMING MESSAGE TO STERLING MORRIS, THE STATION OWNER...
MR. MORRIS... PHONE CALLS ARE COMING IN FROM ALL OVER!
PEOPLE STILL BELIEVE MR. ZODIAC IS A MENACE!
OH, MY--THAT IS QUITE A PROBLEM! WE'LL HAVE TO--
BUT BEFORE MR. MORRIS CAN FORMU--LATE A PLAN...
HE'S A THREAT TO OUR WAY OF LIFE!
DOWN WITH THE ZODIAC FREAK!
WHIZ
DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE WERE TWO MEN IN ONE!
ZODIAC IS THREE MEN IN ONE!
HE'LL TRY TO RULE THE WORLD!
HOLY MOLEY! AN ANGRY MOB!
WE MUST STOP HIM!
HOLD ON, EVERYONE! YOU'RE JUST AFRAID OF SOMETHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!
GIVE MR. ZODIAC A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN!
I DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO ANY WEIRDO--
EXPLAIN HOW HE GOT THAT WAY!
COME WITH ME, MR. ZODIAC. I'LL TAKE YOU TO SAFETY!
I'M SORRY THIS HAD TO HAPPEN, SIR!
IT'S LOGICAL THAT PEOPLE WILL BE AFRAID OF WHAT THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND, CAPTAIN MARVEL!
WHIZ
17

SOON, AS MARY AND JUNIOR JOIN THEM IN A DESERTED AREA OUTSIDE TOWN...
THANKS, MARVELS, FOR GETTING ME OUT OF THAT TIGHT SPOT!
OUR PLEASURE, MR. ZODIAC!
WE KNOW HOW TOUGH IT IS GETTING ALONG WITH PEOPLE WHEN THEY SAY YOU'RE DIFFERENT... AND YOU'RE REALLY NOT!
I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE, JUNIOR...
...BUT WHAT IF PEOPLE HATE YOU FOR BEING DIFFERENT WHEN YOU REALLY ARE DIFFERENT--
...THE WAY I AM?
WHA-WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MR. ZODIAC?
I MEAN ALL THOSE YEARS OF HIBERNATING IN THREE PLACES AT ONCE TURNED ME INTO SOMETHING MORE THAN MAN!
THAT GOLDEN GLOW AROUND YOU--
--YOU'RE ...FLYING AWAY!
GOOD LUCK AND GOODBYE FOREVER, MARVEL FAMILY!
THE PLACE FOR ZODIAC IS AMONG THE STARS NOW!
HOLD UP, JUNIOR! MR. ZODIAC'S LIFE IS HIS OWN AFFAIR!
BUT WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN, CAP?
IT MEANS THAT MAXWELL ZODIAC IS NO LONGER JUST AN EARTHMAN...
...AND IT IS HIS DESTINY TO GO INTO THE UNIVERSE, TO LEARN WHAT EARTHMEN MAY NOT LEARN FOR CENTURIES--
--THINGS BEYOND THE UNDERSTANDING EVEN OF THE MARVEL FAMILY!
WE WON'T TRY TO FOLLOW HIM...WE'LL WISH HIM GOOD LUCK AND PLEASANT JOURNEY!
THE END
18
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SHAZAMAIL!

S-2070

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Dear Mr. Bridwell:

When I saw the 25c **Shazam** #18, I almost felt like cheering! (You don't know how monotonous a bi-monthly 100 page mag can be.) I bought it without even looking inside. Fortunately, there was nothing to make me regret doing so.

"The Celebrated Talking Frog of Blackstone Forest" was a cute, amusing story—not bad for an 11-pager. The only disturbing part was the introduction of Prince Maxwell Phrogue. I'm sure Elliot Maggin won't be able to resist bringing him back . . . but I think **Captain Marvel** has made enough friends for now. You should concentrate a little more on plain ol' adventures.

The **Captain Marvel Jr.** tale, "The Coin-Operated Caper," was another of those clever, gimmicked stories by E. Nelson Bridwell. I guess it didn't hurt to have **Sivana Jr.**, but I caution you against using those three bucktoothed villains too often.

Your rotating features (**CM Jr., Mary Marvel and Marvel Family**) are all doing pretty well, but **Cap Jr.** has an art problem. Kurt Schaffenberger does not give it any of the Mac Raboy or Bud Thompson look that Junior's artwork should have.

Before I close, let it be said that the cover of #18 was colorful and cataclysmically effective.

Danny C. Hampton, Kansas City, Mo.

(You might be interested to learn that Kurt Schaffenberger was not only one of the regular CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. artists back in the Golden Age—he was also, for some time, the regular cover artist on JUNIOR'S own mag!—E.N.B.)

. . . . .

Dear Nelson:

The latest **Shazam** (#18) was tucked away with the humor comics—which perhaps, in a way, it is. But it's a lot more than that—it's also a very interesting super-hero comic whose plots may sometimes insult the intelligence, but at least never ignore it! And this time around, you pretty much avoided doing either one.

It's true that the idea of a prince turning into a frog is a very old one, but Elliot S! mixed it up with scientific devices, foreign spies and traditional **Captain Marvel** characterization ("Either a beautiful maiden has to kiss the frog . . . or something embarrasing like that!") with a very pleasant result. Everything followed quite logically, with the exception of Prince Maxwell's disenchantment—I can't see why Mr. Tawny's brave deed would have such a delayed reaction!

Bob Oksner is no C.C. Beck or Kurt Schaffenberger, but when they are unavailable, he's as good a substitute as any. He does capture the Beck style quite well, though it's beginning to look as if Mr. Tawny will have to go on another diet soon.

The younger Sivana's first solo scheme in 22 years wasn't that impressive—it still seems to me you're cutting down on the plot in these **Marvel Family** shorts more than is necessary. **Captain Marvel Jr.** deserves more involved stories with less obvious solutions. Remember that, unlike his mentor (with apologies to Les Tremayne), **Junior** was generally played straight. But Kurt Schaffenberger is a fine artist for him and I wouldn't mind keeping him on **Junior** indefinitely.

Richard Morrissey, Framingham, Mass.

(Maybe the delay in the Prince's change from a frog means that it isn't easy to become disenchanted with MR. TAWNY— hmm? —E.N.B.)

. . . . .

Dear Mr. Bridwell:

Man and boy, I've been reading **Captain Marvel/Shazam** (with a break of 20 years between) and in all that time, I can't remember anybody asking who was the messenger of **Shazam** who brought Billy Batson to the Egyptian magician for the first time.

Michael N. Tierstein, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(Somebody must have asked the question. Anyway, I have an answer. Who was the MESSENGER of the gods? None other than MERCURY—who just happens also to be one of the SHAZAM gods!—E.N.B.)

. . . . . .

Dear Editor:

What will you think of next? **Captain Marvel** is going right into fairy tales! "The Celebrated Talking Frog of Blackstone Forest" was great, but **Cap** overdid it when he acted as a propeller for Raskolnikov's helicopter. And where did Billy's white shirt go?

"The Coin-Operated Caper" was the pride of the issue! The elastic square bubble was an ingenious weapon! And after the mistake **Sivana Jr.** made, he should be put in the Careless Geniuses' Hall of Fame!

David Williams, Gordon, Ga.

(I guess Billy's shirt was in the wash that issue.—E. NELSON BRIDWELL.)

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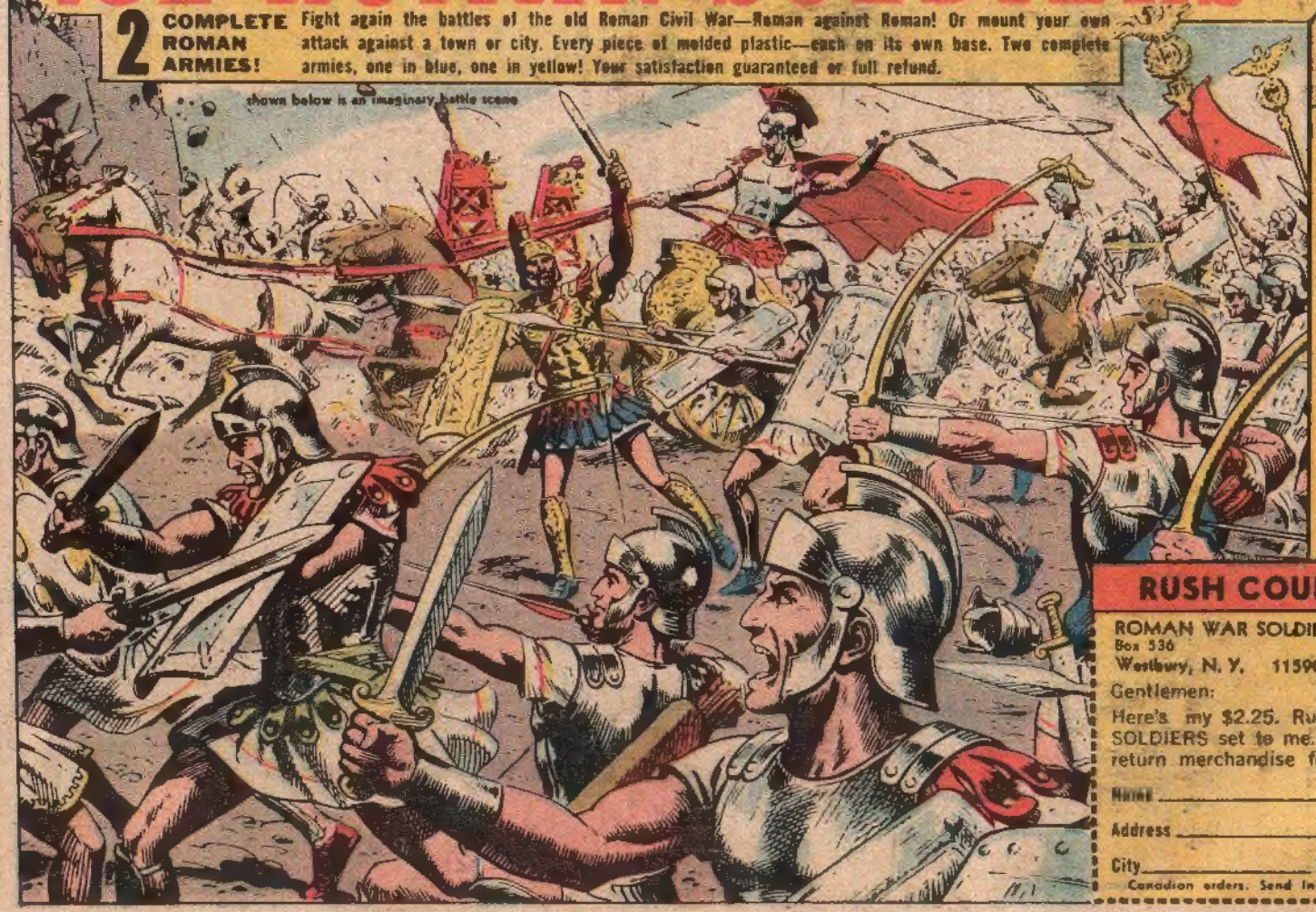

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IT'S EASY TO JOIN OLYMPIC! Just fill in and mail the postcard! No postage is required. We'll send you your FREE Sample Book, FREE Membership Card and FREE Catalog of Prizes. There's ABSOLUTELY NO COST TO YOU — NO OBLIGATION! Don't delay — join Olympic Today!

BE FIRST IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!
DON'T DELAY! JOIN NOW! MAIL POSTCARD TODAY!

OLYMPIC SALES CLUB, INC., DEPT. 75NC6, ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06082

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ENFIELD
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POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY

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DEPT. 75NC6
ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06082

FOLD BACK ON DOTTED LINE (TAPE OR PASTE DOWN)

FROM

MY NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ AGE _____

You've grown. Do you need a new Daisy®? Dad can help you find the one that fits.

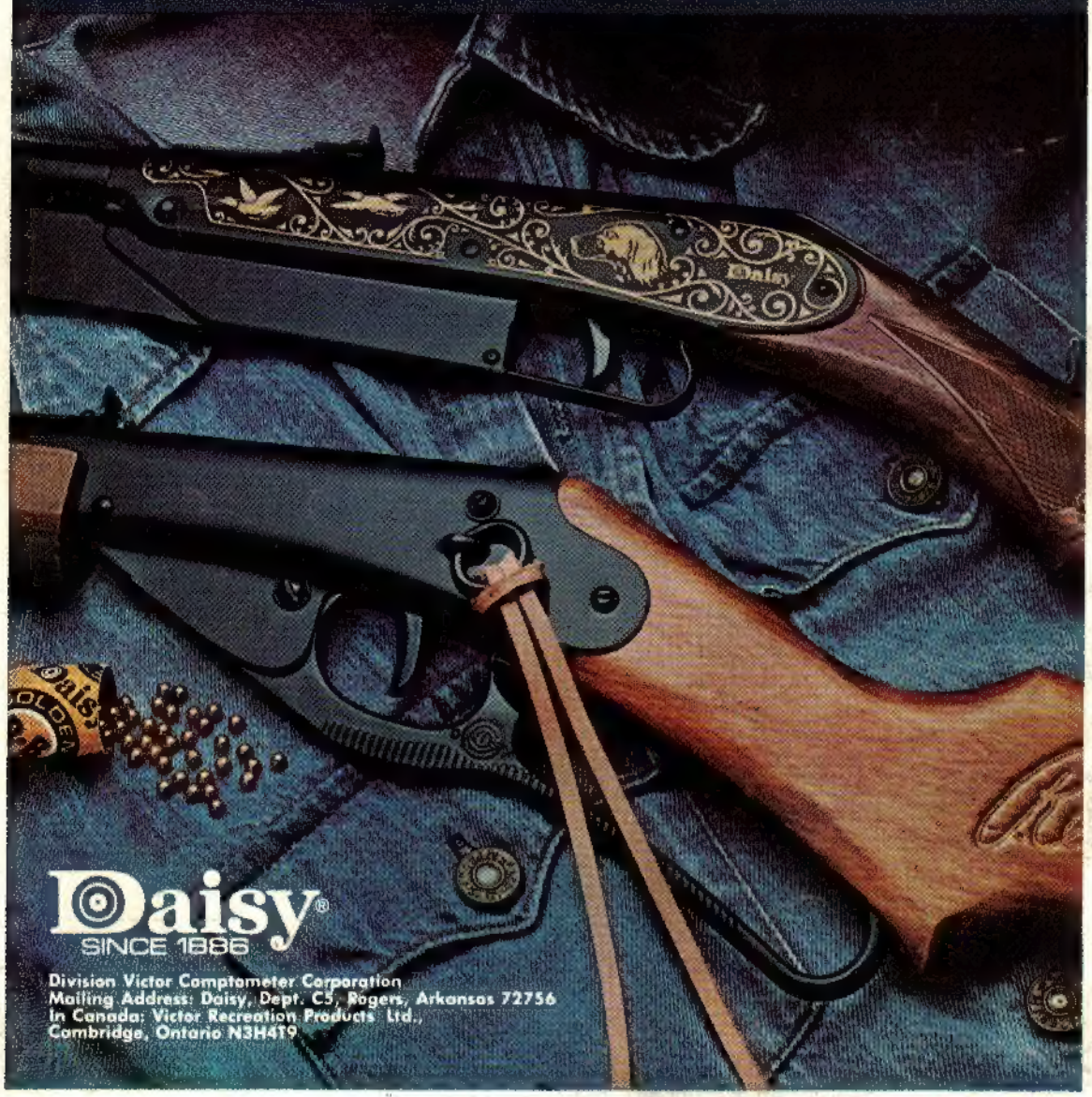
With him there to help, you can try the whole Daisy B·B gun line, and find the Daisy exactly right for you.

Get your hands on those man-sized stocks. Choose a Western or a Monte Carlo style. Find the heft you can handle. And the sleek, handsome lines and real gun feel that's right for you.

How about the shooting? Your new Daisy will have the power you need for the fun you want. It'll be more accurate, too. Just because it feels so good and fits so right.

So talk it over with Dad. If he feels you're ready for it, both of you can go down to the store that sells Daisy B·B guns. You'll be able to try on the Daisy models right for you, as well as see the whole exciting line of Daisy accessories.

Send for the new, super 24-page, full-color Daisy consumer catalog featuring air guns for ages 8-15. It's only 25c.



Daisy®
SINCE 1886

Division Victor Comptometer Corporation
Mailing Address: Daisy, Dept. C5, Rogers, Arkansas 72756
In Canada: Victor Recreation Products Ltd.,
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